



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
2000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

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Ser DNS-36JP/18U104814

August 2, 2018

Sent via email to: [foiamail@gwu.edu](mailto:foiamail@gwu.edu)

Mr. Nate Jones  
The National Security Archive  
The George Washington University  
Gelman Library, Suite 701  
2130 H Street NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Jones:

This is in reference to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated July 20, 2017, originally addressed to the Department of the Navy Mandatory Declassification Review Program. Your request was received in our office on May 8, 2018, and was assigned case number DON-NAVY-2018-007373.

In the course of processing your FOIA request this office contacted Navy Historical and Heritage Command (NHHC), Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Warfare (OPNAV N2/N6), and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Operations, Plans, and Strategy (OPNAV N3/N5) to conduct a search for applicable records. NHHC advised that their records in this matter only cover 1971 and earlier. OPNAV N2/N6 and OPNAV N3/N5 both advised that they were unable to locate any "Blue Flag" messages from November of 1983.

Because no records were located, under 32 CFR \$701.12(a), you may appeal this determination by writing to:

Office of the Judge Advocate General  
1322 Patterson Ave SE Ste 3000  
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066

Your appeal must be received within ninety calendar days from the date of this letter. A copy of your initial request and this letter must accompany the appeal. The appeal should be marked "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL" both on the envelope and the face of the letter. In order to expedite the appellate process and ensure full consideration of your appeal, your appeal should contain a brief statement of the reasons you believe this initial decision to be in error.

In this instance, the fees associated with processing your request were below the minimum threshold and have not been assessed. Please be advised, however, that fees, fee categories, and fee waivers are determined on a case-by-case basis; a previous determination has no influence on future determinations.

For this determination, you have the right to seek dispute resolution services from either the DoD Navy Component FOIA Public Liaison, Mr. Chris Julka, at: [Christopher.a.julka@navy.mil](mailto:Christopher.a.julka@navy.mil), via phone: (703) 697-0031; or by contacting the Office of Government Information Services at: (<https://ogis.archives.gov/>), (202) 741-5770, [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov).

Questions regarding the action this office has taken to process your request may be directed to our FOIA Service Center at (202) 685-0412 or via email at [donfoia-pa@navy.mil](mailto:donfoia-pa@navy.mil).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Strong', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

R. Strong  
Deputy Director,  
DON FOIA/PA Program Office